

Alaska News & Resources

- 1. Bike Rodeo and "Ride" in Anchorage, July 1, 2001
- 2. Fourth of July alert on fireworks

National News & Resources

- 3. DOT Press Release Thursday, June 21, 2001 Media Advisory: New Rollover Ratings and New Crash Test Results Available on NHTSA's World Wide Web Site.
- 4. "A Community Approach to Dog Bite Prevention" published in JAVMA 218(11): 1732-1749 June 1, 2001
- 5. "CPSC Releases New Report on Residential Fires" June 21, 2001

Recent Product Recalls from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

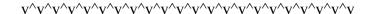
- 7. Remote Controlled Toy Race Cars & Galileo Weather Thermometers
- 8. Chain Saws and Child Table Seats

1. There will be a Bike Rodeo and "Ride" on July 1, 2001 in Anchorage. The event will be held at REI, 1200 W. Northern Lights, from 1pm - 4pm.

The Bike Rodeo: 1pm - 3pm, includes bike registration, helmet fitting, bicycle safety checks and traveling the safety maze.

The Bike Ride: 3pm - 4pm, kids 10 to 15 years of age (Parent consent and helmets are required) may participate in a supervised 3-mile bike ride from REI down and around Westchester Lagoon (the ride is limited to 50 kids).

For more information and registration for the Bike Ride contact REI at 272-4565.



2. Fourth of July holiday will soon be here and fireworks will be set off around the state.

"Every year a couple of Alaskan children are hospitalized because of injuries they received while playing with fireworks. Half involve the face and eyes, and most of the rest involve hands and fingers." -- from the Alaska Trauma Registry

Nationally, over 40% of those injured from fireworks are children 14 years of age and younger. Two-thirds of all fireworks injuries occur during the month of July and homes are where most of the injuries take place.

Further fireworks information about Fireworks-Related Injuries may be found in CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention & Control fact sheet on the topic. The direct link is: http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/fworks.htm

3. New Rollover Ratings and New Crash Test Results Available on NHTSA's World Wide Web Site: http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov

For rollover resistance, frontal impact, and side impact, the New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) reports rollover resistance ratings and crash results in a range of one to five stars, with five stars showing the best protection for vehicles. Frontal impact tests should be compared only within the same weight class.

The crash test information and rollover resistance ratings are available at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA), web site by clicking on AStar Ratings@ under APopular Information@ in the index on the left side of the screen.

4. "A Community Approach to Dog Bite Prevention" published in JAVMA 218(11): 1732-1749 June 1, 2001.

The above report is referenced on the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's home page. The American Veterinary Medical Association's Task Force on Canine Aggression and Human-Canine Interactions prepared the report.

The report: A Community Approach to Dog Bite Prevention covers:

- Representative national statistics on the existing dog bite problem
- How to mobilize a community and the infrastructure needed to establish a program
- Specific prevention recommendations
- Recommendations for dog bite reporting educational and communication approaches and targets

Full Text: www.avma.org/press/dogbite/dogbite.pdf

5. CPSC Releases New Report on Residential Fires

Latest data show record number of fatalities from candle fires

WASHINGTON, D.C.- A new report (pdf) shows that while deaths from residential fires have been nearly cut in half from 4,500 in 1980 to 2,660 in 1998, those caused by candles have increased dramatically. Candle deaths increased 750 percent from 1980 (20 deaths)

to 1998 (170 deaths). In most cases, candles caused house fires when they were left unattended, tipped over and ignited nearby combustibles. Almost half of home candle fires start in the bedroom. Mattresses or bedding are the most common items that ignite, followed by furniture (dressers, desks, and tables) and then curtains. Tealights and tapers are common culprits in candle fires.

A child playing with the candle itself or near the candle is one of the biggest contributors to candle fires. Faced with fire, many children hide in a closet or under a bed leading to tragic fatalities. In fact, children under age 5 have a fire death rate more than twice the national average.

"Candles are no longer used for the occasional dinner party. In fact, only a small percent of candle fires start in dining rooms," said CPSC Chairman Ann Brown. "Candle sales are booming and families are lighting candles in their living rooms, family rooms, dens and bathrooms. Fires from candles have increased dramatically, but they are preventable. Reduce the chance of a fire, by following CPSC's simple safety tips."

- Keep matches, lighters and candles away from children.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Keep combustible materials away from candles.
- Don't put candles in a location where children or pets could knock them down.
- Use only non-flammable candle holders.
- Always trim the wicks before lighting.

The new report shows that house fires have been dropped from 655,000 in 1980 to 332,300 in 1998, the latest year for which data is available. In contrast, house fires caused by candles have increased, from 8,500 in 1980 to 12,900 in 1998.

CPSC standards and compliance activities have contributed to the overall decline in fires and deaths. For example, CPSC's standard for child- resistant lighters has helped reduce fire deaths from children playing with lighters by 43 percent since 1994. Other CPSC standards include general wearing apparel, children's sleepwear, mattresses, and carpets and rugs. CPSC staff is working on standard proposals for upholstered furniture and for heating and cooking equipment. CPSC staff is also working with the candle industry to develop safety standards for candles to help reduce fires.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. For information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call the above numbers or visit the web site at

http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/103.html. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's web site at http://www.cpsc.gov.

6. CPSC, Firms Announce Recall of Remote Controlled Toy Race Cars & Galileo Weather Thermometers

Full Text w/ photos: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01166.html

[Note: excerpt from press release]

PRODUCT: Remote Controlled Toy Race Cars - Equity Marketing Inc., of Los Angeles, Calif.

PROBLEM: Problems with the circuits are rendering some of the Remote Controlled Race Cars inoperable. These cars can overheat and emit smoke and may pose a potential burn hazard.

INCIDENTS/INJURIES: Equity Marketing Inc. has received three reports of the toy cars emitting smoke. No injuries have been reported.

PRODUCT: Galileo Weather Thermometers - Nantucket Distributing Co. Inc., of South Yarmouth, Mass.

PROBLEM: The thermometers contain a liquid that is flammable and a hazardous substance that could be harmful or fatal if swallowed.

INCIDENTS/INJURIES: CPSC and Nantucket Distributing Co. Inc. have received five reports of thermometers breaking resulting in two injuries. A man suffered burns to his hands when the thermometer broke near a stove and ignited his clothing. Another man suffered smoke inhalation when extinguishing a fire caused by candles igniting a broken thermometer

7. CPSC, Firms Announce Recall of Chain Saws and Child Table Seats

Full Text w/ photos: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01175.html

[Note: excerpt from press release]

PRODUCT: Chain Saws - Stihl Inc., of Virginia Beach, Va.

PROBLEM: A missing screw can cause the chain brake to fail to operate, presenting a laceration hazard to consumers.

iacciation nazara to consumers.

INCIDENTS/INJURIES: None reported.

PRODUCT: Child Table Seats - Inglesina USA Inc., of Montclair, N.J.

PROBLEM: The seats were sold without a seat belt, posing a risk to children who climb out of the seat.

INCIDENTS/INJURIES: Inglesina USA has received one report of a 10-month-old gi	rl
who fell from a table seat, and bruised her back.	

This message has been compiled by the Section of Community Health & EMS (CHEMS), Alaska Division of Public Health and sent to subscribers of the AK-Prev and AHELP list-serves. It has also been sent as a "bcc" to others in Alaska including Public Health Centers, SAFE KIDS coalitions, Native Health organizations, and regional EMS Councils and Coordinators who may be interested and active in injury prevention and health promotion. The purpose is to share resources, breaking news, training opportunities, product recalls, and opinion to help prevent injuries to Alaskans. Feedback and contributions are encouraged. Contributions can be directed to Mary Krom: mary krom@health.state.ak.us

link for the AK-Prev & AK-EMSC list-serve: http://chems.alaska.gov/ems_list_servers.htm link for the AHELP list-serve: http://www.auroraweb.com/ahec/
